



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/628,577	07/29/2003	Augusto Rodriguez	005242.00059	4091
22907	7590	03/10/2006	EXAMINER	
BANNER & WITCOFF 1001 G STREET N W SUITE 1100 WASHINGTON, DC 20001			CORDRAY, DENNIS R	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1731		

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

W

101628,577

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---------------------------------------------------	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

01062006

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

The amendment filed on 2/07/2006 presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because, in a previous amendment filed 7/12/2005 in response to a Restriction/Election requirement Applicant elected, without traverse, the invention of claims 13-24, drawn to a process of use (and the resulting product - claim 24). The amended claims are drawn to a composition, which was not the elected invention.

The TIME PERIOD from the mailing date of the notice sent on 1/26/2006, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment, remains active. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

Response to Arguments

In regard to the argument on p 3, 2nd par that a hydrolyzed copolymer of styrene-maleic acid anhydride having a copolymer of styrene-acrylic acid ester dispersed therein is a subspecies of the elected species of a hydrolyzed styrene-maleic anhydride copolymer, the original Claim 6 recited both a "copolymer of styrene-maleic acid" and a "copolymer of styrene-acrylic acid ester dispersed in a copolymer of styrene-maleic acid" as separate and distinct species. Why then should a copolymer of styrene-maleic anhydride and a copolymer of styrene-maleic anhydride having a copolymer of styrene-acrylic acid ester dispersed therein not be considered as separate species?

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis Cordray whose telephone number is 571-272-8244. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, 7:30 -4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ERL
DRC

Stev P. Griffin

STEVEN P. GRIFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700